

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
LOG OF MEETING

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared  
7/17/02  
No Mfrs/PrvtLbtrs or  
Products Identified  
Excepted  
Firms Notified,  
Comments Processed.

SUBJECT: Public meeting with representatives of Atkins & Pearce, Inc. regarding CPSC staff proposal to regulate the use of lead in metal-cored candlewicks

DATE OF MEETING: June 27, 2002

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Kristina Hatlelid, Ph.D., Division of Health Sciences

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: July 15, 2002

LOCATION: CPSC headquarters

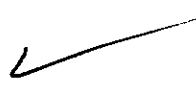
CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Kristina Hatlelid (HS), Lori Saltzman (HS), Thomas Caton (ES), Lowell Martin (OGC), Allyson Tenney (ES), Warren Porter (LSC), Mary Toro (CE), Geri Smith (CE), Mary Donaldson (EC), Carolyn Meiers(ES)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Jeb Head (Atkins & Pearce, Inc.) Michael Brown (Brown & Freeston, P.C.), Valerie Cooper (National Candle Association)

SUMMARY OF MEETING: CPSC proposed a rule to ban metal-cored candlewicks containing lead and candles made with such wicks, and to require testing/certification and recordkeeping for candlewicks that contain a metal core (e.g., zinc-cored candlewicks) and candles with such wicks. In addressing the industry's concerns about the proposed rule, Mr. Head, of Atkins & Pearce, a US wick manufacturer, discussed how the processes used by candle manufacturers could make tracking specific candlewick lots from the candlewick manufacturer through to shipments of finished candles very difficult for economic and logistical reasons. For example, he described production of tealights, which are likely made with metal-cored wicks. These small candles are produced in large batches using equipment that rapidly inserts candlewicks into many candles at a time, drawing wicking from many different spools. Since several different lots of candlewick are likely to be used at one time, tracking candles with specific candlewicks through the production run to their ultimate shipping containers could be labor and time intensive, and costly.

One alternative to the testing and recordkeeping requirements would be the use of candlewicks that do not contain a metal core, since these wicks are not subject to the proposed rule. However, Mr. Head explained that metal-cored wicks are important in the production of certain kinds of candles, especially for smaller manufacturers.

Mr. Head proposed a wick tracking method that he expects would decrease the burden that candle makers will face if they are required to track specific lots of wicks. Mr. Head hopes that relieving some of this burden will encourage candle makers to continue use of metal-cored wicks, rather than discontinuing use of these wicks. Mr. Head proposed to code Atkins & Pearce wick lots based on the lot of zinc used in the production of the wicks. (The zinc lots would be tested and certified as conforming to the proposed rule.) The wicks would be produced with



colored threads in the braid that would uniquely identify the wick lot. Because individual lots of wicks could then be distinguished and identified visually, candle manufacturers would only have to maintain a record of the manufacturer of the wicks they use and certification tests for each wick lot (based on the unique color pattern). Mr. Head would like such an alternative to be added to the proposed rule, not take the place of the original staff proposal.

Mr. Head confirmed that he would submit written comments before the public comment period closes July 8, 2002.



UNITED STATES  
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

Meeting between the US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff,  
and Representatives of Atkins & Pearce  
Regarding metal-cored candlewicks

June 27, 2002  
Room 410 A, CPSC

PLEASE SIGN IN

NAME	ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
Michael A. Bessou	B&F	202 237 6008	
Thomas E. CATON	CPSC	301-504-0494	
Lowe / MARTIN	CPSC/OGC	301-504-0980	lmartin@cpsc.gov
Allison Tenney	CPSC/ES	301 504 0494	
Kris Hatlelid	CPSC/HS	301-504-0994	khatlelid@cpsc.gov
Lori Saltzman	CPSC/HS	X1203 (301) 504-0477	lsaltzman@cpsc.gov
W. Portu	CPSC/LSC	X123 301-424-6421	WPortu@cpsc.gov
Mary Toro	CPSC/CE	X1378 301-504-0608	mtoro@cpsc.gov
Geri Smith	CPSC/CE	301 504 0608 x1160	gsmith@cpsc.gov
Mary Donaldson	CPSC/EC	X1326 301-504-0962	mdonaldson@cpsc.gov
Valerie Cooper	NCA	202-343-2210	nea@kellenco.com
Carolyn Meiers	CPSC/ES	X1281	CMEIERS@CPSC.GOV
Jeb Head	Atkins & Pearce, Inc.		